

Connacht Regional News

Traditiones et Spiritum Amateur Radio Servandum

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May 2022

Welcome to the Third Edition of the Connacht Regional News

The Connacht Regional News is inclusive, unbiased, and primarily written for the local Club/Groups in Connacht although there is a wealth of information that is of interest to all radio operators. We repeat forthcoming activities in several editions to give advanced notice of the event.

Please Note: We are *freelance* and in absolutely no way, affiliated to any National Society. This enables us to report activities of *all* Groups/Clubs in Ireland who wish to supply news items of interest. We aim to promote radio activities that are due to occur rather than report those that have happened. If you have an item of interest, please feel free to forward it to Steve, EI5DD, who will include it in the following newsletter.

Lough Erne Rally

The SHARE Centre, Lisnaskea,

Co. Fermanagh BT92 0EQ

Sunday 8th May 2022

Doors open at 11:30

For information & Tables
Contact Alan GI6PYP

Email - argault61@gmail.com

GI-QRP Convention - June 25th



Preparations are well underway for the GI-QRP convention in association with the QRP Club. The Convention will take place on the 25th of June 2022 at the Tandragee Golf Club, 11 Markethill Road, Tandragee, Craigavon BT62 2ER, doors open at 9 am. Presentations start at 10

am there will be Lectures/Seminars, a series of Build-A-Thons, Special Interest Groups, Talk-In, Trade Stands, Prize Draw/Raffle, Catering, and a Licensed Bar. There will be ample parking and disabled access. The callsign GI5LOW will be in use leading up to and the weekend of the Convention. The organisers are extremely grateful to Kanga Products for their support of the Convention.

Pubs and Clubs on the Air (PACOTA)



A new activity, Pubs and clubs on the Air (PACOTA), will be take place throughout the UK between the 13th and 15th of May. Perhaps we could find a nice country public house to run a station

such as Keane's in Maam Valley or maybe somebody may know a good alternative that is located off the beaten track.

It is noticeable that if there is any location that can have a radio installed within, then the UK Amateurs will hold an Activity on the Air event from it. Maybe we should set up a station at a local Bog and start a new trend of Bogs on the Air, BOTA.

I suspect that UK stations might raise an eyebrow at the idea, as Bog has a totally different meaning over there! The mind boggles (*sic*) at the idea of operating from a smelly little building on Hampstead Heath! I digress a little. If you have any aspirations of operating for the PACOTA event, contact g1puv@yahoo.co.uk and enter your information on the G6TW website at <https://www.g6tw.org.uk/pacota/>

EUDOTA Europe Day "On the Air" 2022



Traditionally held on the 9th of May, but active from Friday 6th until Monday 9th, for the whole weekend, with the

special callsigns: AO1EU, AO2EU, AO3EU, AO4EU, AO5EU, AO6EU, AO7EU, AO8EU and AO9EU, to commemorate the creation of the EU in 1950. As usual, special QSL and Award will be available. Contact also valid for the Radio Clubs of the World Award, EANET. Much more information from <https://fedica.org/eudota/>

Annual School Club EU Day



The annual School Club EU Day activity takes place on the 5th of May between 08:00 and 18:00 UTC. The aim is to make

contacts with and among school amateur radio club and training stations as well as school children with their own callsigns. This is an opportunity to get young operators on the air from their school shacks using their training callsigns or the school's club callsigns for greetings messages. Operators will be encouraged to spend more time beyond the basic exchange of necessary details. A certificate for participation will be issued for stations that send in a log extract from their day's activity. More information from: <https://www.iaru-r1.org/2022/the-annual-school-club-eu-day-on-may-5th-every-year/>

Grande Oriente do Brasil 200th Anniversary



Masonic Hams linked to the Grande Oriente do Brasil will carry out a special operation from the **1st to the 30th of May 2022** in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Grande Oriente do Brasil which will take place on June 17th of this year. In this operation, Freemasons Hams linked to the Grande Oriente

do Brasil, previously registered with the organization of the event, will go on air throughout Brazil and other radio amateurs and radio listeners from anywhere in the world will be able to qualify for a beautiful Diploma (to be sent via e-mail). All are welcomed to participate in this event where it is necessary to work the special event callsigns.

More information from <https://www.qrz.com/db/PP200GOB>

Isle of Rockall DXpedition - EU-189



From the **6th - 19th of June 2022**, a team will attempt to land on the Isle of Rockall (IOTA EU-189) – one of the most inhospitable places on Earth. Their intention is to survive on the island for one week to raise funds for a Children's Hospice and other charities.

Nobby, G0VJG, will be part of a team going to Rockall, EU-189, a tiny islet in the North Atlantic. They plan to be there for the full week. This is a very challenging and dangerous expedition as well as extremely rewarding. The team are due to sail on the **6th of June**. Nobby plans to operate on the HF Bands for a couple of days to give this very rare IOTA to as many operators as possible using the callsign MM0UKI/P. More Information from <https://www.dx-world.net/mm0uki-p-isle-of-rockall-eu-189/>

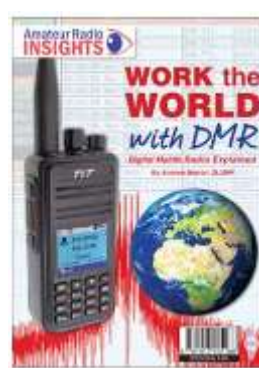
FT8DMC 5th Anniversary Special Event



To commemorate our 5th anniversary, special event stations will be on air during the FT8DMC Activity Days **from 4th to 17th July 2022**. All stations will bear the FT8DMC or FTDM suffix,

referring to the fifth anniversary of the FT8 Digital Mode Club. An FTDMC Anniversary Award can be earned by working the FTDMC and FTDM stations and collecting points applicable for various award classes. Please note, that working the same station on the same band in the same mode is considered a 'dupe' QSO and will not count for the award. The award will be available free in a digital format. This year you can download your Anniversary Award from our new Dashboard, please visit <https://ft8dmc.com>. If you are interested in activating a special callsign the suffix must be FTDMC or FTDM. Please send a copy of the issued special callsign license to oe6vic@gmail.com no later than **10th July 2022**. The FT8DMC is not responsible for printing QSL cards or answering incoming QSL inquiries. Each special event station is responsible for answering QSL queries themselves.

Work The World With DMR



The Work the World with DMR practical approach explains the steps that you need to follow to make your new DMR radio work on your local repeater or hotspot, and for worldwide contacts. Amateur Radio DMR is not as simple as entering a couple of frequencies and setting a CTCSS tone the way you would for an FM radio. So, you can expect a steep learning curve but of course that's where this book will be the most

helpful. You will discover lots of new terms including dashboards, zones, receive groups, colour codes, code plugs, hotspots, Parrot, talk groups, and time slots. Also, acronyms like MMDVM, CPS, IPSC2, DMR-MARC, TGIF, and DMR+. MMDVM (multi-mode digital voice modem) 'hotspots' are very popular accessories and there is information here about their uses and configuration. You will also find coverage of duplex hotspots and the perhaps more familiar simplex hotspots, including a section on how to assemble a hotspot from a kit, a Raspberry Pi, and an SD card. There is even step by step instructions for configuring the Pi-Star hotspot operating system. Available from the RSGB Shop <https://www.rsgbshop.org/>

SOS Lifeboat Week



SOS Radio Week starts at 00:00 on the **1st May** and **end at 23:59 on 31st May** every year. Its objective is to raise awareness of the invaluable, and amazingly

selfless, work performed by the volunteers of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), independent lifeboats and the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI). SOS Radio Week is one month of fun, operating, an opportunity for amateur radio to celebrate the work of the royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) and to raise much needed awareness and funds for them. Any licensed Amateur Radio operator, or Amateur Radio club, based within the United Kingdom, Ireland, Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man can [register](#) to run an official SOS Radio Week station. All you need to do is let us know what callsign you will be using during the event, together with your location, and you will become an official [Registered SOS Radio Week Station](#), promoting the work of the RNLI and NCI throughout the event. <https://www.sosradioweek.org.uk/about/sos-radio-week-what/>



YOTA Summer Camp Croatia 2022



The YOTA Working Group in IARU Region 1 and the Croatian Amateur Radio Association has invited up to four (4) participants from IARU Region 2 to attend their next camp, which will be held in Karlovac, Croatia. The dates are **August 6th through 13th, 2022**. Youth from the Americas

who would like to attend must be licensed and between 15 and 25 years old. The cost to attend is 25 euros and transportation costs to and from Croatia. The deadline to **apply is May 8, 2022**. For more information, visit [YOTA Summer Camp Croatia 2022](#). We ask every Youth Coordinator in IARU Region 1 to apply for their national YOTA Teams according to the "Call of Applications". One team can consist out of up to four (4) participants. For the details please see the attached file. The final number of participants per member society will be announced after the **application deadline on May 8th, 2022**.

North West Fusion Group



North-West Fusion Group operate a network of repeaters and gateways all connected to the NWFG room. This means they can offer superb coverage across the North-West as well as enabling radio amateurs the ability to access their infrastructure from anywhere with internet access via Wires-X room 41755 or a hotspot connected to their reflector YSF26499 (GB NWFG) or our FCS00428 backup. For those contemplating the use of Yaesu Fusion equipment there is a comprehensive set of videos on their YouTube Channel found at: https://www.youtube.com/c/NorthWestFusionGroup/videos?view=0&sort=dd&shelf_id=0

Sue's Net is run on the North-West fusion Network at 7:30pm every Tuesday and all are welcomed to join in. **The Squirrel Net** is run at 7am every day on Wires-X node 41755, YSF GB NWFG and FCS00428. More recently, the Southern Fusion Network in the UK links to the NFWG from 06:45 – 10:00 and 13:00 to 16:00 not forgetting the link into Sue's Net each Tuesday.



GIOTA – GI On The Air (GI being Northern Ireland) the group was set up some time ago initially to promote 2m SSB on the first Friday of the month, SSB Calling Frequency 144.300MHz, but has expanded to any mode any band to encourage on-air activity. It is also used to share local events/club news and the GB2RS broadcast is streamed to the group on a Sunday at 19:30 as it is being read on DMR TG880 on the Phoenix Network



QRP Day 2022

The IARU is supporting the 2022 QRP Day scheduled for the **17th of June**. The interest in QRP activities continues within the amateur radio community worldwide. QRP radio communications can test the operating ability of radio amateurs and can offer advantages concerning, among others, the reduction of QRM on the amateur bands.

Irish Net

Active not only on Sundays, but most weekdays starting at around **1600 UTC, the informal gathering on 14.156 MHz** frequently suffers from QRM during contests and DXers unaware of this long standing net of North American operators with an Irish connection. In a recent QSO on 20m with WI1IDP, QTH Tuscon Arizona, operator Jerry confirmed that the net now also uses the **17m band operating on 18.114 MHz**, avoiding the increased QRM on 20m and taking advantage of improved propagation conditions

Wales Ragchew Net



Hosted by Chris, MW7CCS, the Wales Ragchew Net takes place at 7:30pm every Saturday evening. Access is via BM TG 2356, YSF 02694 GB-Wales, and Wires-X Node number 87517. EchoLink operators join via MB6IPG-L All are welcomed to join in.

Ham Radio Friedrichshafen



HAM Radio in Friedrichshafen is an international amateur radio exhibition. Radio amateurs from around the world are meeting there to talk more about connecting people through their hobby. An important component of the Fair is the young talent. Through special events are targeting young people to introduce them to the topic of amateur radio. For the exhibitors, the HAM Radio in Friedrichshafen, is an important commercial centre to make good deals. This is the 45th Ham Radio in Friedrichshafen International amateur radio exhibition open **Friday the 24th of June to Sunday the 26th of June**.

Northwest Group Amateur Radio Club



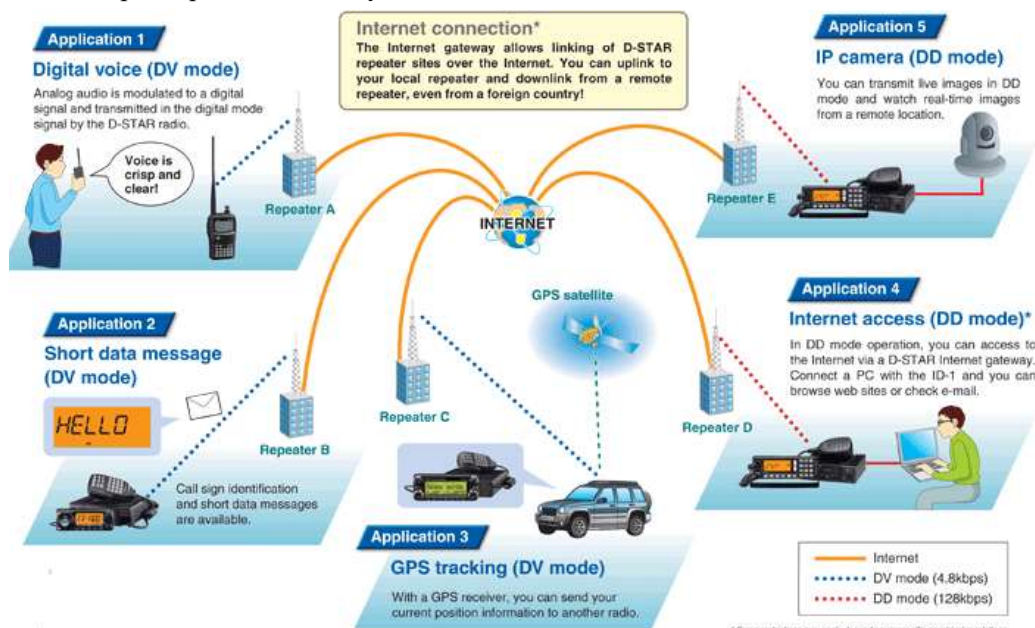
The Northwest Group Amateur Radio Club in Londonderry are activating GB0AEL as part of the 90th Anniversary of Amelia Earhart landing in Londonderry, the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. They will activate the callsign GB0AEL from the 13th May to the 30th May. They will also be operating portable from Gallaghers field, Ballyarnett, Londonderry on the weekend of the 21st May. This event is open to the public. More information on qrz.com under the callsign GB0AEL or email the club: nwgarc@gmail.com

Have you Tried D-Star Yet?

What is D-Star? D-STAR, which is an acronym for 'Digital Smart Technology for Amateur Radio' is an open digital Amateur radio standard that offers users a number of ways to connect with other users globally via a worldwide network of digital amateur radio repeaters.

D-STAR is capable of connecting repeater sites using the web to form a world-wide radio network. Voice is converted to a digital format using a bit of computer code referred to as a CODEC. The CODEC code is embedded on a microchip which encodes and decodes the audio signals into and out of the AMBE (Advanced Multi-Band Excitation format). The CODEC that D-STAR uses is the only proprietary portion of DSTAR. All other parts of D-STAR are open which has allowed enthusiasts to develop this part of the hobby.

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Advantages? The D-STAR voice and low-speed data signal offers a significant improvement in spectrum efficiency, requiring only a 6 kHz channel instead of the 20, 25, or even 30 kHz of analogue wide-band FM. D-STAR repeaters can be interleaved between existing channels or multiple repeaters deployed in the spectrum of only one analogue FM repeater.

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D-Star Use

- Point to point
- Via A Repeater
- Via a Personal Hotspot

Getting Set Up for D-Star

It is necessary to get registered for D-Star at this location <https://icomuk.co.uk/How-can-I-get-registered-on-the-DSTAR-network/4056/1572/>. Without this your D-Star radio will not work through the network. You will be able to connect to Repeaters and Gateways throughout the network once this registration has been completed.

Data Messaging (including picture transmission)

The occupied bandwidth of the digital signal is smaller than that needed in analogue transmissions and therefore more digital channels can be provided in a given bandwidth. To enable the repeaters to communicate with each other over the internet the repeater is connected to a PC running a LINUX operating system and Gateway software. This software connects to other gateways and keeps the user lists up to date and connects the digital streams between repeaters. All of the information is distributed within a network that is managed by a 'Trust Server'.

D-STAR Repeaters can be operated in the same way as existing analogue repeaters except that they communicate using a digital transmission from the transmitting radio through to the receiving radio. Unlike other systems that have been developed that use the web for linking distant stations together, D-STAR treats all repeaters in exactly the same way. A local repeater is no different to a repeater

3000 miles away, you just have to route your call to the distant repeater. You can connect to a local repeater and a repeater across the internet and all participants will be treated as though they are on the same repeater.

D-STAR reflector?

A reflector can be considered to be similar to a repeater, but with no RF capabilities. Reflectors are Internet connected servers, generally in data-centres, which receive a transmission from a connected gateway (via the Internet) and send it out to all other connected gateways for retransmission, via RF in the case of a repeater. Reflectors are basically a conference

bridge for D-STAR. They allow multiple D-STAR repeaters and Dongle users, from around the world, to be joined together and whatever information is transmitted across one of the repeaters is repeated across all of the connected repeaters

D-STAR provides a whole host of opportunities for the Amateur radio enthusiast to challenge themselves with tools from the 21st. Century. As with all forms of radio, you can dip your toe in the water for just plain old communication or delve further if you are interested in setting up repeaters and send data as projects. It might not be everyone's cup of tea but this area of the hobby is growing with more and more repeaters and users being added all of the time.

Galway will soon have a Repeater on a high site operating on D-Star along with the 2m Multimode Gateway overlooking Galway City. There are many opportunities to buy second hand or brand new D-Star radios. The latest ICOM 9700 has D-Star on 2m, 70cms, and 1296 MHz. As with all D-star Radios it is actually wise to read the manual.

Have you Tried DMR Yet?

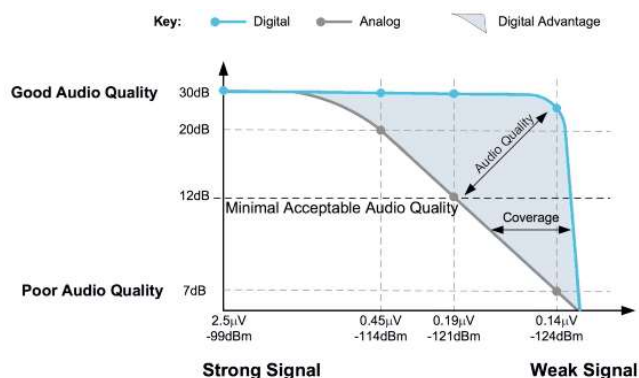
In both the West and Southeast of Ireland, we are fortunate to have a very comprehensive Network of Digital Repeaters. In the Southeast there are three Digital multimode Repeaters and close by, in Cork, there is also a DMR Repeater.

In the Galway Area, there is a network of four DMR Repeaters, and a multimode Gateway.

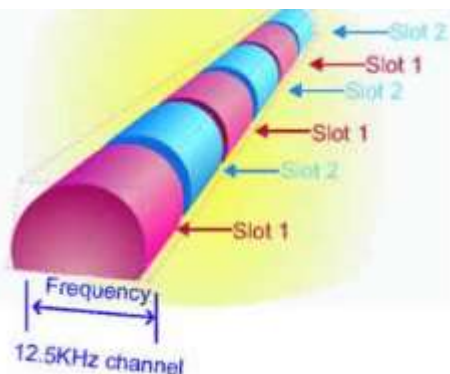
There is a Digital Multimode Gateway in Roscommon and Kildare and a multimode Repeater in Portlarnock and a DMR Repeater in Dundalk.

In short, the country is well covered by Digital Systems which are just crying for more use.

Digital Mobile Radio, DMR, was developed as a way of reducing the bandwidth of the transmitted signal while improving the quality of the received voice transmission. DMR can transmit two voice channels on the same RF carrier, using the same 12.5KHz bandwidth as a single FM Repeater channel. Being Digital, the signal is less prone to noise and flutter fading resulting in excellent voice quality at signal levels that would be prone to the characteristic hissing sound with FM.



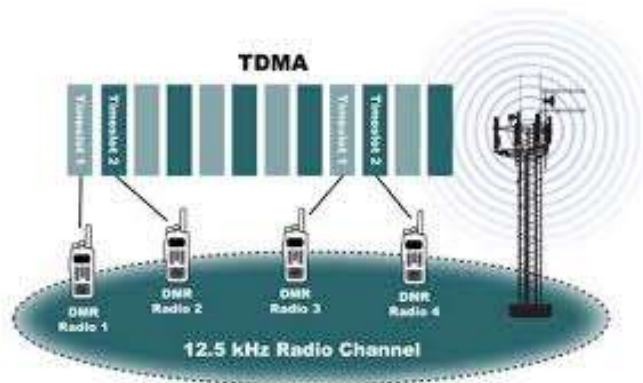
DMR is a Time Division multiple Access, TDMA, system. The Base station or Repeater sends some data for one voice channel, Time Slot 1 for 27.5 milliseconds and then send data on the second Time Slot 2 for 27.5 milliseconds and keeps repeating this pattern. While transmitting "voice traffic" the DMR data structure is comprised of 30 milliseconds data packets called "bursts" which contain the data for one voice channel, plus synch bits, and embedded signalling data. Two burst make a TDMA Frame. Each 60 millisecond TDMA Frame carries data and voice bits for both time slots. As shown below.



12.5kHz TDMA

- Divides existing channel into two timeslots
- Delivers twice the capacity through repeater
- Performance is same or better than 12.5kHz FDMA
- Single repeater does work of two repeaters
- Reduces need for combining equipment
- Enables 40% increase in radio battery life

As a result of this arrangement one transmitter, receiver, cavity filter, and antenna, can support two different systems simultaneously as shown below.



The diagram above shows one pair of radios operating on Time Slot 1 and another pair operating on Time Slot 2. The system on Time slot 1 will not hear any traffic on Time Slot 2 and vice versa. Two independent systems running on the one 12.5 KHz channel. Obviously this has its advantages and doubles the amount of use for each channel occupied by one Repeater.

DMR talk Groups are a way of grouping many stations together. When transmitting on a Talk Group, every radio that has the same talk group selected and connected to the system, will hear the call. Such a call may be made via a Repeater, Gateway, or personal Hotspot.

Talk Groups may be assigned to different Time Slots. For Example, all "Calling channels" are assigned to Time Slot 2, whilst all "Chat channels" are assigned to Time Slot 1.

Clusters, a group of Repeaters in a region can be linked together via a cluster where any call made on one Repeater will automatically route through all Repeaters in the Cluster. Clusters are designated Talk Group 8. Talk Group 8 in Galway will not activate Repeaters in a Cluster in the South Eastern area.

Some Typical Talk Groups in Ireland are:

Ireland Call TG 2722
Ireland Chat TG 2723
YSF Ireland TG 2724 Bridges into Yaesu Fusion YSF IE
Local Cluster TG 8
Talk through Repeater only TG 9 and not through Server

Other factors are the use of colour Codes which are the Digital equivalent of CTCSS tones. Colour Codes range from 1 to 15. Just as CTCSS tones are used to open Repeaters, so Colour codes perform the same task on DMR Repeaters. If the colour code is incorrect the repeater will not open.

The **Brandmeister System** is the Network employed in Southern Ireland to which all of the Repeaters are linked, and this enables the operator to link anywhere around the world by transmitting on a specific Talk Group common to that area. There are 47 Master Servers linking to each other around the world. There are many other networks available.

For more information on the Digital Networks check out <http://galwayvhfgroup.blogspot.com/> where the Galway Network is described in great detail. Further reading may be obtained from <https://www.galwayradio.com/> where there is a downloadable copy of the Digital Radio Operating Manual describing the systems in Both Northern and Southern Ireland.

Platinum Jubilee Operation - June 2022



RSGB "Special" Special Event Stations are being activated from the four UK Home Nations and three Crown Dependencies: England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Jersey, Guernsey and

the Isle of Man. The UK regulator Ofcom, has licensed a series of special call signs that will be active only during **June 2022, including from 2nd -5th June 2022**, which is the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend in the UK. These call signs are: [GB70E](#), [GB70M](#), [GB70W](#), [GB70I](#), [GB70J](#), [GB70U](#) and [GB70D](#). If you click on a call sign there is a link to the QRZ.com page for that call; see below how you can book an activation slot. **Jubilee Weekend** - For the Jubilee Weekend, operation will be on multiple bands and modes by one or more clubs operating from each of the seven nations/dependencies. These will be Special Event amateur stations run by teams of club members and several will be open to the public.. **Activation during the rest of June** - After the first weekend of June, typically from **Tuesday 7th June until Tuesday 28th June**, these special call signs will be available for activation by RSGB affiliated clubs or individual RSGB members. Each call sign has a volunteer coordinator who will be responsible for allocating operating slots in a published schedule and will collect the log files from those who have been activating the calls.

Galway Radio Club

The Maamturks walk took place on the 9th of April. On this occasion, the organisers had procured their own VHF radio system using a business radio licence for their operation. There were eight checkpoints and three finish points throughout the course over the Maamturks range.



Each of these locations were linked by the VHF Radio system and down to a base radio location in the Maam Valley. The Maam Valley Control Centre was linked to the finish centre in Leenane by a Ham Shack Hotline

telephone Link. Both the Control Centre and the Finish Centre had the VHF Business system, 2 metres and Ham Shack Hotline system in place. Accountability was essential so the participant numbers were transmitted from each of the checkpoints and from the finish points to the Control Centre. This system worked very well and checkpoints were

closed after all had passed through them. There were two finish points prior to the end of the walk and these points allowed individuals to finish early if necessary. The day finished when all had been accounted



for at the third and last finish point in Leenane. Fortunately the weather was clear for the whole day and, as a result, there were no injuries on the hills and nobody suffering from hypothermia. Tom, EI3ER, Steve EI5DD and Gerry EI8EXB.

Mayo Radio Experimenter's Network

Members of the Mayo Radio Experimenter's Network Group attended the IRTS AGM and Radio Rally on Sunday the 10th April, which was hosted by the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel, Carlow. A very big effort by SEARG members was put into the occasion, practically taking over the venue and making it their own for the event. The club members were made very welcome on their arrival at 8 am, SEARG members armed with trollies assisted all traders unloaded their vans and cars and helped them to their tables. Breakfast was available to residents and non-residents on the morning. The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network group had a table of an assortment of radios and radio related items for sale, with busy trading throughout the day. They reported that the Radio Rally and AGM was very well attended by a well-balanced group of young and older YLs & OM likeminded people eg: Radio Amateurs and Shortwave listeners alike, also individuals that had never been at such an event before. It was a wonderful feeling to be able to meet up face to face without the need of face masks again. The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network group will hold their next meeting on Wednesday 4th May in the Breaffy House Hotel at 9pm usually in the foyer area inside the front door. Contact: 087-6957154 for more details.



Galway Digital Radio Group



EI2SHD, the Wires-X Gateway has been defaulted to the Southern Fusion Network in the UK although it can be

changed to any other Wires-X room by the user. If there is no activity it will go back to its default setting. Unlike CQ UK, the Southern Fusion Network is exclusively System Fusion with no links or Bridges to other modes. During the day, there is a link into the Northwest Fusion Group at a specific time twice daily. Any call made into the Network will generally result in a QSO which is a nice bonus. The Galway Repeater, EI2KMR, is not linked into any specific area but it is possible to call up a node of your choice. If there is no activity after the QSO has finished the Wires-X will automatically disconnect. The Galway Allstar Node, EI4GCG has been functional for some time but is awaiting a site where it can operate full time. Unfortunately, in its present location, it is not possible to run both Wires-X and Allstar. Work continues on the Allstar system with a mini hub set up linking Ham Shack Hotline number 94001, DMR TG 27241 and D-Star Reflector XLX353E to the EI7KK Node. Recently the EI7KK node was linked to the Scottish Allstar Hub Node Number 53937. John, MI0AAZ, reports that this system is fully functional and the quality of Audio in all modes is extremely good. The connection map may be found here: <http://stats.allstarlink.org/stats/53937?fbclid=IwAR02IZgGubwqIIVzqkFKhexsElh5UIOOj-ro-MzIYKKK8VKxXinLINRf6NE>

Marconi Radio Group

The Marconi Radio Group took part in the International Marconi day event, a 24 hour event held annually to celebrate the birth of Marconi. Mike EI0CL operated the Group's callsign EI0MRG from his QTH on 80, 40 and 60 metres in the morning and 17 metres in the evening. Over 150 contacts were made, many from the UK, Northern Ireland and then the rest of the world. The equipment used for the day was a Dipole for 40 and 60 metres at a height of 75 ft, an ICOM IC-7510 and an ACOM 2000A amplifier.

A 5 element Yagi was used for the early morning contacts into mainly the USA for around an hour. This was followed by operation on 40metres at 8:30 am. In the evening, the 12 element Log periodic was used on 17 metres resulting in contacts mainly from the USA.

The conditions were excellent with quite a pile up on 40 and 17 metres. Many other Marconi stations were worked mainly from the UK..

Pat, EI9HX, also operated EI0MRG resulting in 185 QSOs on 20 metres. The activity commenced at 08:30 with fair propagation and some good openings over the North Pole. Conditions were good into the Pacific with QSOs into WH7, KL7, and several QSOs into JA, ZL, and VK. All while working stations from Europe and Asia. Some thirty countries were worked in total on 20 metres.



Shannon Basin Radio Club



On Easter Monday last the Shannon Basin Radio Club headed for their usual spot up to Cairn Hill in Longford.

Fergus EI6IB, Keith EI5IN, Tom EI4HCB and Brian EI8IU met at the foot of the hill and headed for

the summit. Conditions were good between the showers. 70cms was quite compared to other years. 2m was busy with a lot of portable stations active. An enjoyable day was had by all. The Shannon Basin Radio Club Nets on 160m, 80m & 2m have now finished for the summer months and

will start again in the Autumn. The above Net's were very popular with callers in excess of thirty most nights from all over EI, G, NI, and from all over Europe as well just to mention a few F, ON, PE, DL, HB9, OZ, SA, LA. The Shannon Basin Radio Club committee would like to thank all who took the time to call into the nets and we hope to hear you all again in the autumn.



SBC's schedule of forthcoming events include:

June CW Field Day from Roscommon

July IOTA from Inisbofin

September SSB Field Day & Barbecue

Held in Roscommon

Galway VHF Group



In a joint effort, Galway VHF Group and Galway Radio Club members provided backup EmComms for the Connemara Ultra Marathon held on the 24th of April. As the



area covered has many mountains, hills and valleys, it was necessary to use the 80 metre band for the primary operation with 2 metres for localised although, on this occasion some surprising areas were covered

despite the hills and obstacles. APRS was used to locate all operators in the field which saves a lot of unnecessary communication seeking locations of individual operators.

The organisers used PMR 446 radios to control traffic at the junctions on the major roads around the course. The operation kicked off with the Ultra-Marathon from Maam Cross at 9am followed by the Full marathon starting from the Inagh Valley and then the Half Marathon from Leenane. Operators were dispersed amongst the Marathon runners to assist with calls to the emergency services if anyone was in difficulty with injury,

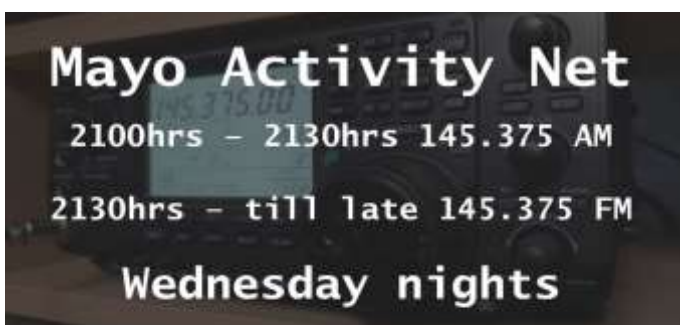


exhaustion, hypothermia, of just unable to continue. All communications went via Net control on the 80-metre band. Net Control had a TETRA Phone to link in with the Ambulance Service to coordinate assistance throughout the 40-mile course. The APRS proved its worth as the communication did not



involve constant updates of positions because the stations were showing up on the APRS map.

The weather was clear and warm for the day which meant there were very few injuries and nobody suffering from hypothermia. The last of the participants crossed the finish line at Peacock's in Maam around 6 pm.



It has been a difficult few years for everyone

Now that things are returning to normal, National Radio Society of Ireland (NRSI) will be organising more social events and membership meetings over the coming months

Further details will be made available on our website closer to the dates of each meeting - www.nrsi.ie



Did you know that you can get Free EURAO membership if you are already a member of NRSI*



* For more information visit www.nrsi.ie or contact the society secretary

Join us Every Weekend for our

Sunday Social Sessions

Hosted via Zoom

NRSI dedicated to Supporting YL's and Youth in the hobby

Speakers and Special Guests are announced in advance on our facebook group

RSGB Radio News Services From GI

10:00 3640KHz LSB Dungiven

12:00 TG2354 Time Slot 2 BM Network

19:30 TG 880 Time Slot 2 Phoenix Network

Shannon Basin's Automated Stations

Sliabh Bán Repeater O/P: 145.775 ,I/P :145.175, CTCSS 88.5

Roscommon Multimode Digital Gateway EI2BED 144.8625 MHz

Current Systems Active in Galway

70cm DMR Repeaters

EI7RHD I/P 430.450 O/P 439.450 CC1

EI7LRD I/P 430.475 O/P 439.475 CC1

EI7AKR I/P 438.425 O/P 430.825 CC1

EJ7IBD I/P 430.500 O/P 439.500 CC1

Yaesu Fusion Repeater

EI2KMR I/P 145.025 O/P 145.625 Wires -X

Gateways

EI2SHD 144.8125 Wires-X Gateway

EI2GCD 145.850 P25 Gateway

EI4GCG 70.425 ALLSTAR node

What is Waiting in the Wings?

1 x 70cm D-Star Repeater

1 x 70cm DMR Repeater completing the network to the South East.

Radio Society of Great Britain
Advancing amateur radio since 1913

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UK Six Metre Group

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scatterpoint

Published by the UK Microwave Group



ARRL
The National Association for
Amateur Radio®

<http://www.arrl.org/>



<https://www.eurao.org/en/welcome>

Dates for the Diary

Grande Oriente do Brasil 200th Anniversary 1st - 30th May

SOS Lifeboat Week 1st - 31st May

School's EU Activity Day - 5th May

Europe Day On The Air 6th - 9th of May

*** Lough Erne Rally - 8th of May ***

Pubs and Clubs on the Air - 13th - 15th May

Amelia Earhart Anniversary 13th May to the 30th May

Queen's Jubilee Full Month of June

Rockall Expedition - 6th - 19th June

2022 QRP Day 17th June

Friedrichshafen - 24th—26th June

*** GI-QRP Convention - June 25th ***

FTMC 5th Anniversary Award 4th - 17th July

RSGB



The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) is the national membership organisation of amateur radio enthusiasts. The society was founded in 1913 and incorporated in 1926. The Society is dedicated to the development of the science and practice of amateur radio. It works to increase awareness and understanding of amateur radio and to make the hobby accessible to everyone. Amateur radio licences were issued to the first UK radio amateurs in 1934. The RSGB represents the interests of UK licensed radio amateurs and is a not-for-profit organization that:

- Promotes the general advancement of the science and practice of radio communication or other relevant subjects.
- Facilitates the exchange of information and ideas on these subjects among its members.

The RSGB aims to obtain the maximum liberty of action consistent with safeguarding the interests of all concerned. RSGB membership is open to all who have an interest in radio communications. The national governing body (The Board) is elected nationally. The regional governing body (The Regional Council) is elected on a regional basis. The day-to-day management of the society is under the control of a small team of full-time employees who are based at the society's head office in Bedford. *RSGB Membership is just £59.00 and this includes 12 monthly technical magazines.* Affiliate your club and get the opportunity for all members to log in and read the online publication of RADCOM, RADCOM Basics and RADCOM Plus as well as receiving a hard copy of the Magazine for the Club. Apply here: <https://rsgb.org/main/join-us/join-the-rsgb/>

Why join NRSI?

WE MAY BE A NEW SOCIETY, ONLY ESTABLISHED IN 2020, HOWEVER ALREADY WE OFFER SOME AMAZING SERVICES

We want everyone to be able to ENJOY their Hobby...

NRSI aims to be friendly and supportive towards all fellow radio enthusiasts

NRSI encourages an open forum method of management - We aim to allow our members to have their voices heard and respected in a fair transparent process

Watch out for our many exciting events planned during 2022, you will not regret getting involved...



Let's work together for a brighter future

